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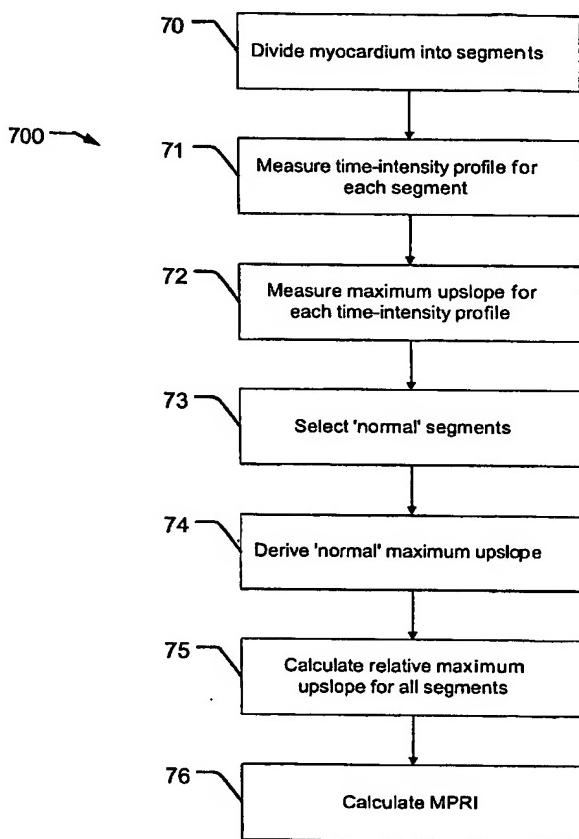
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(54) Title: NON-INVASIVE QUANTITATIVE MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION ASSESSMENT



(57) Abstract: A computer-readable medium, a device and a method for the quantitative assessment of cardiac perfusion. A myocardium depicted on a series of cardiac images is divided into image segments, wherein the image segment comprises at least one image pixel. Then a cardiac perfusion parameter is determined for each of said image segments. Then at least one image segment with a normal perfusion parameter value is selected. Subsequently cardiac perfusion parameters of the remaining image segments are based on said normal perfusion parameter value of said image segment with normal perfusion. According to an embodiment, the perfusion parameter is a maximum upslope of a time-intensity profile for distribution of a contrast agent in said myocardium. A normal maximum upslope is derived for at least one image segment and a relative maximum upslope is calculated for each segment with relation to the normal maximum upslope. Based on these values, a ratio of myocardial perfusion parameters derived at stress and myocardial perfusion parameters derived at rest for each segment may be calculated. For example a myocardial perfusion reserve index (MPRI) is calculated for each image segment as a ratio of the relative maximum upslopes derived at rest and at stress.



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